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ALL ITEMS PASSED.

Mr. Fielding Has Pushed His New Tariff Through Parliament.

Quite a Lengthy Discussion on Cottons and Woolens

Ottawa, Feb. 1.—Cottons and woolens were the concern of the commons yesterday. The house got into the committee on the tariff early in the afternoon, took up the fabric item and stuck to cottons and woolens. The tariff was entirely gone through with. However, a large number of items were held at the request of the opposition for discussion and by the government for consideration of possible changes.

Replying to R. L. Borden, the Minister of Finance said that a number of factories in which cotton goods were manufactured had been absorbed into one company, but a sufficient number remained outside as would guarantee competition and prevent the public suffering from imposition of unduly enhanced prices.

Mr. Bergeron (Beauharnois) inquired whether conditions in connection with the manufacture of cotton goods were such as to ensure working people going, adequate wages considering increased cost of living.

The minister said he had no special information on the subject, but he thought, speaking generally, wages had increased.

R. L. Borden inquired whether any special inquiry had been made as to how the tariff was likely to affect working men.

The minister of finance said the tariff commission had of course to bear in mind the interests of all. The commission had before them representatives of the various departments of labor and received the benefit of their advice. Replying further to Mr. Bergeron, Mr. Fielding said that the condition of the laboring population in Canada, speaking as a whole, had never doubted whether at any other time in the history of the country the laboring classes ever received higher wages than they were receiving now.

The general statement of the manufacturers that the cost of labor had increased.

Mr. Bergeron contended that while wages might have increased the purchasing power of a dollar had decreased, and this he believed was due to the operation of the tariff. The preference tariff had done more harm than good to manufacturers of the country and had thus affected the position of the laboring classes elsewhere.

Mr. Coepshutt attributed the closing of a large factory at Brantford to Mr. Fielding's tariff and asserted that owing to large importations from England, which seriously affected the Canadian market, workmen in the cotton industry were the most poorly paid of any.

Mr. Wright cited instances of cotton companies which were able to pay cotton dividends and thought large imports of cotton goods from the old country only showed that Canadians were being cheated in Canada. Mr. Wright, Renfrew, believed that no matter what duties were put on cotton goods, Canadians would continue to import at least fancy prints from Britain.

Mr. Verville deprecated the working man being made a target of in connection with the tariff. From his knowledge of wages paid in the cotton industry he could say that they were kept down not because of tariff but to enable manufacturers to pay large dividends.

Mr. Fielding regretted the depressing speech of Mr. Cockshutt on conditions of the cotton industry as calculated to do harm. The industry was by no means in a bad condition and in support of that view he pointed to stock quotations of certain manufacturing companies and to the fact that a New Brunswick company had been able to pay a dividend for the first time for twenty years.

When wool used was reached, Mr. McCarthy, Calgary, reminded the minister of finance of representations which had been made in favor of imposing a duty on wool.

Mr. Fielding said that what had been suggested was such a radical departure from the policy not only of the present government, but of other governments that they they could not entertain it. The experience of the United States had shown that once a duty was imposed on wool it was followed by higher duties on goods made from wool. Canada could not afford to adopt a policy of that kind.

Mr. Caldwell, North Lanark, having some experience as a woollen manufacturer, pointed out that the great bulk of wool imported was of a higher grade than the home grown article, which had practically no competition.

Mr. Lalor (Haldimand) thought the schedules might be so amended as to protect the wool producer without hurting the manufacturer.

Mr. Knowles (W. Assiniboia) asked that wools should be classified to enable such as are produced in Canada to be more adequately protected.

R. L. Borden, referring to large importation of wool inquired whether it was not a class and quality that could be grown in this country. Could not the production of wool be encouraged by the manufacturers using Canadian wool.

Mr. Fielding pointed out in reply that farmers who waited on the tariff commission said they did not want any increase in duties, and especially in the West, they mentioned they did not want any increase in woollen clothing, which is an essential article

of use in a cold country. An increased duty on wool would entail the necessity of increasing the duty on woollen clothing.

If this were not done what would be the use of encouraging the production of wool if the factories which were to use it up were shut down?

Mr. Foster demanded an adequate duty to protect the production of wool on the principle of encouraging native industries.

On the item of shipbuilding Mr. Fielding stated to the opposition that it had been stated a few years ago that the only possible method of reviving the establishment of a shipbuilding industry was by giving a bounty. A scale of draw back on materials had been on the statutes for years without producing the desired result. It was a question whether Canada had the right to impose a tax on British built ships.

Mr. Fielding stated, but it had not been thought expedient to attempt it in this tariff.

Mr. Bennett thought it would be done against dredges and should be done. Canadians could build high class dredges and the industry should be encouraged.

Mr. MacDonnell, Toronto, wanted a duty on equipment and supplies purchased by Canadian boats in American ports. A Canadian hull might be taken to the United States, half rebuilt machinery put in and returned to Canada duty free to the detriment of Canadian industries.

W. F. MacLean wanted American automobile manufacturers encouraged to come to Canada and establish factories. He stated this business was growing to great proportions in other countries and would in Canada exceed in importance, shipbuilding or agricultural implement making.

Mr. MacLean advised the government to make an announcement that for a year parts of automobiles should be allowed to come in free for assembling in Canada and the second year only the most important parts be brought in free, and the third year a high duty, say 60 per cent should be imposed against all parts. This program he thought would result in a large number of automobile factories being established in Canada.

Hon. Mr. Fielding said he thought 65 per cent one of the highest tariffs the list, was enough to impose against automobiles. It had resulted in three plants being established, and he had no doubt there would be more if them as the demand increased.

Mr. Ames asked if the government was going to collect duty on uniforms of militia officers.

Mr. Fielding stated they were being given the same treatment as supplies imported for the government.

Mr. Ames said it would be a hardship on volunteer militia officers who were now sacrificing a good deal of their time in the country's service.

Mr. Fielding said that when it was shown the uniforms could not be obtained in Canada as cheaply as abroad the militia department would experiment the case, possibly in the way of repayment of the amount of duty.

This finished the list of tariff items and the house adjourned at 11 o'clock.

London Streets.

Miles lane is a corruption of St. Michael's lane; Mark lane for Mort (market) lane; Sermon lane for Shermonier lane, the locality of the "sheremoneyers," who sheared or clipped bullock into shape for coining at the exchange near by; Sise lane for St. Osyth's lane; Gutter lane for Guthrun lane, from a Dane who owned the property there.

Perspiration.

Human perspiration if injected into dogs or rabbits acts like a deadly poison. Perspiration secreted during hard muscular work has more toxic power than the ordinary kind, while that obtained from subjects whose secretion has been checked by cold is very poisonous.

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Rabbit Tails.

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Drooping mustaches preserve the health of millers, bakers, coal heavers and ashmen, keeping the dust out of their lungs.

The Turkish Tongue.

The Turkish language is said by scholars to be the softest and most musical language of modern times, being better adapted to the purpose of musical notation and recitative than even the Italian.

Bridal Wreaths.

The bridal wreath is usually formed in Germany of myrtle branches; in France and England, of orange blossoms; in Italy and French Switzerland, of white roses; in Spain, of red roses and pinks; in the islands of Greece, of vine leaves; in Bohemia, of rosemary; in German Switzerland, of a crown of artificial flowers.

Brain Weight.

A large brain does not signify intellect. The brain of an illiterate person in a low station of life has been found to outweigh those of the most celebrated scientists, poets and philosophers.

Cruelty to Goldfish.

It may not be generally known that there is cruelty in the keeping of goldfish. Half of such captives die from sheer want of rest. As fish have eyes so formed that they cannot endure the light, in a glass vessel they are in an entirely wrong place, as is evident from the way in which they dash about and go around and around until fairly worn out.

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